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3rd March 1993

PADL/LTT/31754
PM 1335

Response due
June 24, 1993

RECEIVED
PHILIP MORRIS MANAGEMENT CORP.
LAW DEPT.-PATENT SECTION

MAR 10 1993

NOTED CEG

Dear ~~Jim~~, CHARLES

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO: 90312658.9
OUR FILE: 31754

I attach a copy of the first examination report received from The European Patent Office. A response is due to be filed by 24 June 1993.

No prior art has been cited against the claims. However, some objections have been taken to the wording of Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 14. These are set out in paragraph 1 of the official letter.

In paragraph 1.1 the Examiner objects that Claims 1 and 4 do not contain sufficient limitations to achieve the object of the invention. In particular, the Examiner considers that some reference to the size of the heating element is necessary. Reference has been made to Claim 11 which specifies a range of possible sizes.

In paragraph 1.2 objection has been taken to a number of features which are defined by their use. The Examiner considers that these definitions are not clearly limiting. It may be that the Examiner is being overly Germanic in his approach.

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Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/yqhj0000

In Claim 2 the Examiner has asked us to re-cast the claims in two-part 'characterised' form based on the closest prior art, US 3200819. A number of other minor points have been raised all of which we can take care of when replying to the official action.

I look forward to receiving your instructions for response in good time before the 24 June 1993 deadline.

Yours sincerely

P.A.D. LLOYD

cc J H Ingerman Esq - Fish & Neave

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Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/yqhj0000